

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**Call to Order:** Chair Alan Redfield, on February 17, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Redfield, Chair (R)  
Rep. Christy Clark, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)  
Rep. Bill Harris (R)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)  
Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)  
Rep. Mike Lang (R)  
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey (R)  
Rep. Matthew Monforton (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)  
Rep. Zac Perry (D)  
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)  
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Seth Berglee (R)  
Rep. Daniel R. Salomon (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Julie Johnson, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 439, 2/17/2015; HB 453, 2/17/2015; HB 478, 2/17/2015

00:00:09 Chairman Redfield  
Rep. Salomon entered

00:01:21 Vice Chair Clark

**HEARING ON HB 439**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:27 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HB 439, Require recording of board of livestock meetings.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:12 Jay Bodner, Montana Stock Growers Association, Montana Farmers Union (MSGA) (MFU)

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh36a01)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:03:47 Christian Mackay, Montana Department of Livestock (MDOL)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:04:46 Rep. Staffanson  
00:05:01 Rep. Redfield  
00:05:22 Rep. Lang  
00:05:36 Christian Mackay, MDOL  
00:06:09 Rep. Lang  
00:06:15 Christian Mackay, MDOL

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:06:39 Rep. Redfield

**HEARING ON HB 453**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:08:00 Rep. Wendy McKamey (R), HD 23, opened the hearing on HB 453, Generally revise board of hail insurance laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:10:19 Ben Tiller, Montana Department of Agriculture (Dept. of AG)  
00:14:31 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)  
00:15:11 Rob Davis, Self and Montana Grain Growers (MGGA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:16:12 Rep. Berry, HD 40  
00:18:01 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agent's Association of Montana

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh36a02)

**Informational Testimony:**

00:21:53 David Ewer, Montana Board of Investments (MBOI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:24:44 Rep. Lang  
00:25:23 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:26:11 Rep. Lang  
00:26:18 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:26:55 Rep. Lang  
00:27:22 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:28:13 Rep. Williams  
00:28:38 David Ewer, MBOI  
00:30:20 Rep. Williams  
00:30:37 David Ewer, MBOI  
00:30:48 Rep. Curdy  
00:31:17 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:31:47 Rep. Salomon  
00:32:03 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:33:17 Rep. Karjala  
00:33:48 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:34:27 Rep. Karjala  
00:34:42 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:35:07 Rep. Berry, HD 40  
00:35:26 Rep. Karjala  
00:35:31 Rep. Berry, HD 40  
00:36:13 Rep. Lang  
00:37:07 Ben Tiller, Dept. of AG  
00:38:10 Chairman Redfield  
00:38:27 Rob Davis, Self and MGGA  
00:38:41 Chairman Redfield  
00:38:50 Rob Davis, Self and MGGA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:39:15 Rep. McKamey

**HEARING ON HB 478****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:42:44 Rep. Kathleen Williams (D), HD 61, opened the hearing on HB 478, Implement changes in Montana's food retail sales laws.

00:46:00 Rep. Berglee entered

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a06\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:59:50 Jan Tusizk, Grow Montana Coalition and Food and AG Development Program

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a08\)](#)

01:02:54 Joyce Previte, Grandma Hoot Products

[EXHIBIT\(agh36a09\)](#)

01:07:52 Jim Murphy, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT(agh36a10)**

01:16:56 Cort Jensen, Department of Agriculture (Dept. of AG)

01:18:12 Jacob Cowgill, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

01:19:03 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO)

**EXHIBIT(agh36a11)**

01:21:06 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Research Council (NPRC)

01:22:17 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana

**EXHIBIT(agh36a12)**

01:24:17 Jim Carlson, Missoula County Montana Environmental Health Association (MEHA)

01:29:18 Tim Read, Northwest Montana Sanitarian's Association (NWMSA)

**EXHIBIT(agh36a13)**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:30:45 Todd Younkin, Montana Department of Labor and Industry

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:31:13 Rep. Lang  
 01:31:39 Rep. Williams  
 01:32:09 Rep. Staffanson  
 01:32:32 Rep. Williams  
 01:33:52 Cort Jensen, Dept. of AG  
 01:37:08 Rep. Staffanson  
 01:37:32 Jim Carlson, MEAH  
 01:38:56 Rep. Webber  
 01:40:24 Rep. Williams  
 01:41:22 Rep. Webber  
 01:41:48 Rep. Williams  
 01:42:03 Rep. Webber  
 01:41:38 Rep. Harris  
 01:42:14 Rep. Williams  
 01:43:19 Rep. Curdy  
 01:43:52 Jim Carlson, MEAH  
 01:44:16 Rep. Mortensen  
 01:44:30 Rep. Williams  
 01:45:28 Rep. McKamey  
 01:46:04 Rep. Williams

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:46:36 Rep. Williams

01:48:22 Chairman Redfield

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:48:38

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Jessica Riffel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([agh36aad.pdf](#))